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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-Hour Report

2 DECEMBER 2016

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Davis - Hate Letter Sent to Davis Mosque Announces Muslims' 'Day of Reckoning'

(U) The Islamic Center of Davis has received a copy of a hate letter that has been sent to numerous mosques nationwide. The Yolo County District Attorney's Office released a copy of the letter yesterday and announced that a news conference will be held Tuesday to discuss the issue. The hand-printed letter purports to be from a group calling itself Americans for a Better Way and is addressed to "the children of Satan." The FBI has said that the threats in the letter, though inflammatory, are not specific enough to investigate at this point, but the agency is monitoring the situation.

SOURCE: 1 December 2016, The Sacramento Bee

(U) Victorville – CHP Stops Speeding Truck, Uncovers \$11 Million in Heroin

(U) A long-haul truck speeding down an interstate highway in Victorville was hauling more than 200 pounds of heroin worth about \$11 million when the California Highway Patrol pulled it over Wednesday morning. CHP said they became suspicious when the driver began acting nervous. A K9 officer sniffed out the heroin in the rear of the tractor-trailer rig. The drugs were packed in boxes marked with labels indicating they contained skin-care cream. Authorities believe the truck was headed to Canada. SOURCE: 1 December 2016, KCRA

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – FBI to Gain Expanded Hacking Powers

(U) Washington DC – A last-ditch effort in the Senate to block or delay rule changes that would expand the US government's hacking powers failed Wednesday, despite concerns the changes would jeopardize the privacy rights of innocent Americans and risk possible abuse by the incoming administration. Democratic Senator Ron Wyden attempted three times to delay the changes, which will take effect on Thursday and allow US judges to issue search warrants that give the FBI the authority to remotely access computers in any jurisdiction, potentially even overseas. The changes will allow judges to issue warrants in cases when a suspect uses anonymizing technology to conceal the location of his or her computer or for an investigation into a network of hacked or infected computers, such as a botnet.

SOURCE: 1 December 2016, Reuters

(U) Illinois – Shots Fired at Officer Lead to Standoff and Five Arrests

(U) Chicago – Five people were arrested and multiple guns were recovered after a five-hour standoff that started yesterday when at least one person fired shots at a Chicago Police supervisor. The supervisor was driving an unmarked squad car near the mouth of an alley when someone opened fire on him. He then saw someone run into a house nearby, and a SWAT team was called after they refused to come out. No one was hurt.

SOURCE: 2 December 2016, FOX 32

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(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Colombia - Colombia's Congress Approves Peace Accord with FARC

(U) Bogotá – Colombia's Congress approved a revised peace accord with the country's largest rebel group on Wednesday night, a vote that was most likely the final hurdle in ratifying the troubled agreement whose earlier version had been rejected in a referendum this fall. By pushing the new deal through Congress, the government bypassed voters who had turned down the accord by a narrow margin on 2 October. SOURCE: 1 December 2016, The New York Times

(U) England – Surge in Online Sex Trade of Children Challenges Anti-Slavery Campaigners

(U) London – Technology has fueled a surge in the buying and selling of children online for sexual abuse with advertising a child on the internet as "easy as booking an airfare", campaigners told an anti-slavery conference in London. Lawyer Carol Robles-Roman, who was deputy mayor for legal affairs to former New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg, said legal reform was urgently needed to protect children from online sexual exploitation. Although there is no data to indicate the scale of the problem globally, law enforcement and other agencies in various countries are reporting that numbers are on the rise with technological advances making it hard to track down the buyers.

SOURCE: 1 December 2016, Reuters

(U) France – Police Make Five Arrests in 'Unprecedented' Cyber-Crime Takedown

(U) Paris – US and European officials say they have knocked out a cybercrime group accused of inflicting hundreds of millions of dollars in losses worldwide, putting five key suspects in custody. The European Union police agency said yesterday the sweep was "unprecedented in its scale" and resulted in the seizure of 39 servers and hundreds of thousands of internet domains used by the Avalanche network, a major player in the market for cybercrime services. Unlike some past seizures—which grabbed infrastructure while leaving the masterminds free to reorganize their networks—officials say they're confident they have struck a fatal blow this time. The arrests Wednesday followed months of preparation and years of investigation by law enforcement agencies. SOURCE: 1 December 2016, <u>Yahoo News</u>

(U) Netherlands – Europol Warns of ISIL Attacks, Says Dozens of Militants May Be in Europe

(U) The Hague – The Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) is likely to launch more attacks in Europe, the EU police agency Europol warned today, with several dozen militants already in place and more possibly arriving as ISIL faces setbacks in Syria and Iraq. In a report on the threat the Islamist group poses to the 28-nation bloc, Europol said the most probable forms of attack would be those used in recent years, from the mass shootings and suicide bombings seen in Paris and Brussels to stabbings and other assaults by radicals acting alone. Car bombs and kidnappings, common in Syria, could emerge as tactics in Europe, it said, while protected sites such as power grids and nuclear power stations were not seen as top targets. Europol also warned ISIL was likely to infiltrate Syrian refugee communities in Europe in an effort to inflame hostility to immigrants that has shaken many EU governments. SOURCE: 2 December 2016, Reuters

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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